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Parks and Recreation In Georgia

VOL. 3 NO. 3 THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES JANUARY, 1977

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH

RECREATION PLANNING SECTION

From Jim Oates To My Fellow Georgia Recreators

For the past 14½ years, it has been my good fortune and pleasure to work in the recreation and park field in the state of Georgia. Few individuals in this profession have had the opportunity to serve in three great communities (Dalton, Carrollton, Cobb County) and at the state level. Each position provided tremendous opportunities for both personal and professional growth.

The particular times that I served in each position were exciting times. Plans were developed, bond referendums were passed, parks were acquired, facilities were constructed, and programs were initiated and expanded at the local level. While at the state level, reorganization was consummated, technical services expanded, Heritage Trust program was implemented, Recreation and Park Assistance Fund created new agencies, and the Land and Water Conservation Fund appears to be reaching its objectives with increased funding.

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Community Education Applications Being Accepted

The Office of Education is taking applications until February 7, 1977 for the community education program. Under this program, grants are made to assist state and local education agencies establish or expand community education programs or to develop programs to train personnel.

In FY'77 $15 million is available for local education agencies. Because of providing a service function to public elementary and secondary schools, local recreation departments are eligible for funds to establish or improve community education programs in the schools. Funds are to be used only to cover leadership, administrative, and coordination costs.

Application forms may be obtained from the U.S. Office of Education, Community Education Program, Regional Office Building Three, Room 5622, 7th and D Streets, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202; 202-245-0691.

Applications For L & WCF and R & PAF To Be Accepted

Applications for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, acquisition and development money for outdoor recreation areas and facilities, will be accepted in the Funding Unit of DNR between January 15 and March 15, 1977.

If Congress appropriates monies at the authorized level, Georgia's share would double to about $6.8 million.

The APDC's will be receiving applications for the Recreation and Park Assistance Fund by mid-February. If the Georgia General Assembly approves these funds, funding of new recreation departments could begin by July 1, 1977. Interested communities should contact their APDC now.

Certification Course Offered For Swimming Pool Operators

Due to the tremendous response to courses held in Florida and many requests in Georgia, CEALIN Chemicals will conduct the National Swimming Pool Institute course for pool operators in Atlanta February 21st through the 25th.

This is an extensive training program for pool operators and anyone directing pool activities or otherwise connected with swimming pools. There will be no discussion regarding particular brands or chemicals. The student will be presented with information including water chemistry, basic mechanical operation, and various material on proper pool controls.

On Friday February 25th, a test will be given by the Division of Public Health, Department of Human Resources. Those receiving a mark of 70% or higher will be issued a certificate from the Health Division indicating their success.

A fee of $15 must be collected from each student prior to the first session on February 21st. This fee will cover the NSPI Handbook, testing materials and certificates.

Exact times and location will be provided for those interested in the course. A deadline of February 10th has been established for registration, with a limit of 80 delegates.

To register contact Cealin Chemicals, Georgia Office, P. O. Box 47735, Atlanta, Georgia 30362; (404) 448-8794.

New Recreation Educators In Georgia

Columbus College has a new Head of the Department of Recreation, Dr. Michael Taylor. Dr. Taylor left Trenton State College in New Jersey, where he was an Assistant Professor of Recreation and Coordinator of the recreation majors program.

The recreation program at Columbus College will now encompass Recreation Planning and Administration, Therapeutic Recreation, Leisure Education, and Outdoor Resource Management.

Dr. Joe Willis is Georgia State University's new Chairman of the Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Safety. Dr. Willis held a similar position at Queens College in New York prior to coming to GSU.

Dr. Joe Willis of GSU

GRPS-NRPA Offices Moved

The joint offices of the Georgia Recreation and Park Society, Inc. and the National Recreation and Park Association, Southeast Region, recently moved to Freeway Office Park, 1677 Tullie Circle, Suite 114, Atlanta, Georgia 30329.

These offices are located near I-85 Northeast and North Druid Hills Road.

The telephone numbers also changed. The GRPS number is (404) 634-2298 and the NRPA number is (404) 634-1997.

GRPS officers elected for 1977 in November at Savannah: (L-R) Dr. Doug Leavitt–President; Larry Fortson–Second Vice-President; Claudia McNair–First Vice-President; Jerry Gist–Treasurer; Tom Martin–President-Elect; Mike Daniel–Secretary; George Harris–Past-President.

Recreators Accept New Positions

Four prominent Georgia recreators have announced their acceptance of positions in recreation outside Georgia.

James O. Oates has resigned as Chief, Recreation Planning Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, to accept the position of Director of Parks and Recreation in Dothan, Alabama. Prior to joining DNR three years ago, Oates was Director of the Cobb County Parks and Recreation Department in Marietta, Georgia for seven years. Oates was honored as "Professional of the Year" in 1976 by the Georgia Recreation and Park Society.

James L. Ryan has joined the National Easter Seal Society in Chicago, Illinois, as Program Specialist, Camping and Recreation. Ryan served as the State Therapeutic Recreation Consultant for the Georgia Department of Natural Resources in Atlanta for the past three years. Before joining DNR, he was Coordinator of Activity Therapies for the Georgia Mental Health Institute in Atlanta for two years.

Bob Saylors has resigned as Director of the College Park Recreation Department in College Park, Georgia, where he served for three years, to become Director of Recreation in East Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Saylors worked as Area Coordinator for Cobb County Parks and Recreation Department in Marietta, Georgia, prior to joining the College Park Department.

Jerry Gist is the new Director of Parks and Recreation in Jackson, Tennessee. Gist was formerly the Director of the Hall County Parks and Recreation Department in Gainesville, Georgia having served in that position for six years.

OATES
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I am also most appreciative of having had the opportunity to be a part of the Georgia Recreation and Park Society and during this time see and experience its tremendous growth. The Society has grown both in number and in the professionalism of its members.

It has been fantastic to have been a part of G.R.P.S. as it grew, struggled, squabbled, and fought. Yet through a cooperative spirit, fiscal responsibility, organization, and most importantly, leadership, G.R.P.S. has accomplished much for the professional and the profession. G.R.P.S. is known and respected nationwide.

More gratifying than the positions I have held and my involvement in G.R.P.S. has been the opportunity to work with hundreds of dedicated recreation and park professionals. The joy of sharing in the accomplishments and the sadness of failure has created a strong bond among us. I will certainly miss those relationships.

My prayer is that God will continue to bless you and your work in Georgia, and I certainly covet your prayers for my family and me as we move to Alabama. As Genesis 37:17 states, ". . . .for I heard them say, Let us go to Dothan."

Recent Personnel Action

Roswell Parks & Recreation Department:
Gary Bracewell – Assistant Director

Valdosta Parks & Recreation Department:
Tracy Ash – Special Activities Coordinator
Jennifer Burgess – Senior Citizens Coordinator
Dennis Cain – Athletic Director

Douglas Parks & Recreation Department:
Danny Lewis – Director

Baxley-Appling Co. Parks & Recreation Department:
Olin Credle – Director

LaFayette Parks & Recreation Department:
Greg Scoggins – Athletic Director

Monroe Parks & Recreation Department:
Pat Barkley – Director

Austell Parks & Recreation Department:
Jackie Headley – Director

Waynesboro-Burke Co. Recreation Department:
Danny Jones – Director

Georgia Mountains APDC:
Rex Brown – Recreation Planner

Peachtree City Parks & Recreation Department:
Jim North – Athletic Director

Clayton County Parks & Recreation Department:
Barbara Trader – Therapeutic Director

Blackshear-Pierce County Parks & Recreation Dept.:
Don Clements – Director

Dept. of Natural Resources-Recreation Planning Section:
Dave Grant – Heritage Trust Coordinator
Ron Belz – SCORP Planner

Henry Co. Parks & Recreation Dept.:
Charles Bledsoe – Director

Snellville Parks & Recreation Dept.:
Derek Stewart – Director

College Park Recreation Department:
Eric Stipe – Director

Cartersville Recreation Department:
W. K. Gentry – Director of Parks & Recreation
Dennis Collier – Program Director
Ronnie Green – Athletic Director

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Promotions and New Assignments

Cobb County Parks & Recreation Department
Bob Baldwin – General Manager of Recreation
Donnie Edgar – Civic Center Manager

Hall County Recreation & Parks Department
Marcia Bagby – Superintendent of Recreation
Millie Coffee – Recreation Leader

Valdosta Parks & Recreation Department
W. A. Edwards – Assistant Athletic Director
Ken Talbert – Recreation Coordinator

Positions Available

Troup County – Area Director

Rabun County – Director

Commerce – Director

Washington-Wilkes County – Director

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Dates to Remember

February 2-4	NRPA Forum Riviera Hyatt House Atlanta
24-27	AAHPER Southern District Convention Hyatt Regency Hotel Atlanta
March 1-3	NRPA Southeast Region Parks & Recreation Maintenance Operations Workshop Rock Eagle
April 3-6	NRPA Southern District Conference DeSoto Hilton Hotel Savannah

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